

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS BURKE AND MOLINA

October 7, 2008

October 15th culminates the celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month and marks the first day of what has become an annual observance in the fight against HIV/AIDS: National Latino AIDS Awareness Day. It is designated in Los Angeles County as "National Latino AIDS Awareness Day 2008".

Members of the Latino community are mobilizing themselves to stop this disease, to draw attention to the critical role HIV testing and prevention education plays in stemming the spread of HIV/AIDS in the Latino community, becoming change agents by encouraging extended families to dialogue, network and confront HIV/AIDS in order to effectively confront difficult issues that work against them. National Latino AIDS Awareness Day 2008 creates the opportunity to amplify community awareness and represents a call to action for Latinos to protect their lives and the lives of those they love by getting tested and learning about HIV.

Los Angeles County have been critically impacted by the AIDS epidemic, with nearly 31,000 residents who have died from AIDS and over 23,000 individuals who are estimated to be living with AIDS. In 2007 persons of color accounted for over 70% of AIDS cases diagnosed; Latinos comprise 40% of persons living with AIDS and 36% of people living with HIV, thus comprising the largest proportion of HIV/AIDS cases in Los Angeles County.

In response to this epidemic, the County of Los Angeles, Department of Public Health, Office of AIDS Programs and Policy, in partnership with the NLAAD Los Angeles Planning Committee, is promoting National Latino AIDS Awareness Day 2008 in a collaborative effort to build the awareness, education and prevention of this epidemic within the Latino community.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors proclaim October 15, 2008 as "National Latino AIDS Awareness Day 2008" throughout Los Angeles County and urge all community members, community based organizations and medical providers to participate in the efforts being established from this partnership.

YBB:RF:jar/NatLatinoAIDSawarenessDay 10-7-08

MOTION

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